

COUNCIL AGENDA: 10-19-04
ITEM: 2, 7

Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Betsy Shotwell

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: October 8, 2004

Approved Buld Borgsonf Date 10-13-04

SUBJECT: WEST VALLEY-MISSION COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT BOND MEASURE H

RECOMMENDATION

That the City Council support Measure H, the "College Repair/Job Training Measure" for the West Valley-Mission Community College District (WVMCCD) on the November 2, 2004 ballot. This recommendation is being brought directly before Council for consideration because an October 13 Rules-in-lieu meeting was substituted for the Rules Committee on that day.

BACKGROUND

The "Friends of West Valley-Mission Community College District has approached the City of San Jose for possible support for Measure H on the November 2004 ballot. The purposes for Measure H are to repair/upgrade West Valley and Mission Colleges, improve job training/transfer programs. Specifically, the measure would upgrade fire safety, repair leaky roofs, improve disabled access, repair/expand job training classrooms for nurses, police, firefighters, paramedics. Measure H funding would upgrade classroom technology for a changing workforce, and repair, construct, equip buildings, classrooms, libraries sites, science/computer labs. The District could not use any of the proceeds of the bonds for administrator's salaries.

According to the impartial analysis by County Counsel, Measure H if passed, would "authorize the District to incur a bonded indebtedness in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$235 million." The ballot pamphlet estimates that that the highest annual tax rate required to fund the bond issue will be \$14.00 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation for fiscal year 2005-06. According to County Counsel, "the precise effect of the bonds upon the property tax rate would only be determined after the bonds are sold. State law will limit the maximum rate of interest paid on any bonds issued, as well s the maximum term to maturity."

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Every semester more than 25,000 people enroll in the West Valley-Mission Community College District's classes with over 10,000 students attending classes in one of the district's two campuses — West Valley College in Saratoga and Mission College in Santa Clara. The college's community education and economic development programs provide corporate training and business services for 5,000 clients annually. More than half the students attending these colleges are residents of San Jose. Most of the buildings at West Valley College are more than thirty years old and have not been updated over the past three decades.

Ballot arguments signators in support of Measure H include, Jim Cunneen, San Jose Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce President and CEO; Carl Guardino, Silicon Valley Manufacturing Group President and CEO; John DiQuisto; and County Sheriff Laurie Smith. Those signators in opposition to Measure H include Allen Hacker, Chair of the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County and Jack E. Davis, Silicon Valley Taxpayers' Association.

The WVMCCD includes either all, or portions of: Los Gatos, Saratoga, Monte Sereno, San Jose, Campbell, Sunnyvale and Santa Clara.

COORDINATION

This memorandum was coordinated with the City Attorney's Office.

BETSY SHOTWELL

Director, Intergovernmental Relations